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**FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL
COVER SHEET**

Date: July 8, 2003

No. of Pages (including this page): 7

To: Examiner Aaron J. Lewis
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Group Art Unit: 3761

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From: Karl G. Hanson
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Application No.: 09/837800

First Named Inventor: Japuntich, Daniel A.

Title: FILTERING FACE MASK THAT HAS A NEW EXHALATION VALVE

Casc No.: 48317US033

Attachments: Communication with copy of June 6, 2003 Office Action and copy of mailing envelope

FAX RECEIVED

JUL 08 2003
GROUP 3700

#15
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7-10 QB

32692

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent
Case No.: 48317US033**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named Inventor: JAPUNTICH, DANIEL A.

Application No.: 09/837800 Group Art Unit: 3761

Filed: April 18, 2001 Examiner: Aaron J. Lewis

Title: FILTERING FACE MASK THAT HAS A NEW EXHALATION
VALVE**GROUP 3700**

JUL 08 2003

FAX RECEIVEDCommissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION**To Fax No.: 703-872-9302
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent
and Trademark Office on:

July 8, 2003

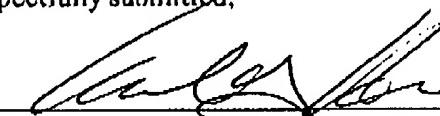
Signed by: Susan M. Dacko

Dear Sir:

On July 3, 2003, applicants received the attached Office Action from the United States Patent and Trademark Office. This Office Action indicates that it was mailed on June 6, 2003. The postmark on the envelope into which the Office Action was contained is dated June 30, 2003. Accordingly, applicants ask the United States Patent and Trademark Office to restart the one-month period for response so that applicant is given the opportunity to make a timely response to the Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


 Karl G. Hanson, Reg. No.: 32,900
 Telephone No.: (651) 736-7776

July 8, 2003

Date

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 United States Patent and Trademark Office
 Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/837,800	04/18/2001	Daniel A. Japunlich	48317USALN.033	9996 45033
32692	7590	06/06/2003		
3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY PO BOX 33427 ST. PAUL, MN 55133-3427			EXAMINER	
OFFICE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COUNSEL 3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY			LEWIS, AARON J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3761	
DATE MAILED: 06/06/2003				

DUE DATE(S)

7/6/03

REFERRED TO

ATTORNEY
DOCKETED

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

APPLICATION NO/ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

EXAMINER

ART UNIT PAPER

14

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

AARON J. LEWIS
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 3761

1. The reply filed on 03/27/2003 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): On page 8 of the 03/27/2003 reply, applicant indicated that the rejection cannot be sustained for the reasons presented in applicants Amendment mailed 06/12/2002. A review of the reasons presented in the 06/12/2002 amendment (page 23) finds arguments regarding claims 33-40,44 and 64 relative to French patent 1,209,475 and arguments regarding claims 45-49 and 54 relative to Braun. These arguments are not responsive to the current outstanding Office action (01/28/2003) because the grounds of rejection set forth in this Office action no longer include an art rejection based on French patent 1,209,475. Braun continues to be relied upon to reject claims 83-85; however, applicants' arguments filed 06/12/2002 argue the merits of claims 45-49 and 54 relative to Braun. Cancelled claims 48,49,54 do correspond to claims 83-85, respectively, but applicants' arguments include cancelled claims 45-47 which are no longer applicable to the art rejection upon which Braun is based. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**

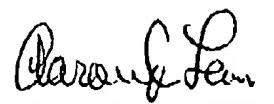
Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to AARON J. LEWIS at telephone number (703) 308-0716.

07/08 '03 14:07

ID:3M 220-11-01

FAX:

PAGE 6



AARON J. LEWIS
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3761

Aaron J. Lewis

June 1, 2003